UNITED
NATIONS

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General Assembly

Distr.
GENERAL

A/46/192
16 August 1991

ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

Forty-sixth session

REQUEST FOR THE INCLUSION OF A SUPPLEMENTARY SUB-ITEM IN THE AGENDA OF THE FORTY-SIXTH SESSION

Elections to fill vacancies in principal organs: election of a member of the International Court of Justice

Note by the Secretary-General

1. The Deputy Registrar of the International Court of Justice, by a cable dated 14 August 1991, informed the Secretary-General of the death of Judge Taslim Olawale Elias (Nigeria) on 14 August 1991 and of the occurrence of a vacancy in the Court as a result of Judge Elias' death.

2. Judge Elias was elected as a member of the Court as at 6 February 1976 and re-elected as from 6 February 1985 for a period of nine years. His present term of office would therefore have expired on 5 February 1994. In accordance with the terms of the Statute of the International Court of Justice, the General Assembly and the Security Council will therefore have to elect a member of the Court to serve for the remainder of Judge Elias' term, that is, until 6 February 1994.

3. By a note dated 16 August 1991, the Security Council has been informed of the occurrence of this vacancy in the Court. Pursuant to Article 14 of the Statute of the International Court of Justice, the Security Council is to fix the date of the election.

4. In view of the current schedule of the General Assembly and without prejudice to the date to be fixed by the Security Council, it seems appropriate that the Assembly include in the agenda of its forty-sixth session, pursuant to rule 14 of its rules of procedure, a supplementary sub-item of item 15 (Elections to fill vacancies in principal organs) reading as follows:

"(c) Election of a member of the International Court of Justice."

5. This sub-item would be taken up at a meeting of the forty-sixth session on the date fixed therefor by the Security Council. As soon as the Council has done so, the Member States and the other States parties to the Statute of the Court will be informed thereof.